

Backcountry Planning Worksheet

Big Bend National Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Backcountry permits for primitive roadside campsites or high Chisos backpacking sites **must be obtained in person** at park visitors up to 24 hours in advance of the trip. The permit may be issued for up to 14 consecutive nights in the backcountry.

Trip leaders and/or party members can be cited for violations of park rules and regulations. Trip leaders assume complete responsibility for their own safety and that of their group while hiking and camping in Big Bend National Park.

This form is **NOT** a Permit, it is a worksheet intended to assist in the planning and permit process.

Name _____ Address _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Organization _____	# of people _____ # of stock _____ Vehicle 1 Model/Color _____ Lic. Plate - State/Plate # _____ Vehicle 2 Model/Color _____ Lic. Plate - State/Plate # _____
--	--

Intinerary - First Choice:

Date	Campsite or Zone
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____

(itinerary requests can be longer than 6 nights)

Intinerary - Second Choice:

Date	Campsite or Zone
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____

Backcountry Regulations

1. **GROUNDFIRES AND WOODFIRES ARE PROHIBITED.**
Use only gas stoves or charcoal within BBQ grill. Pack out all evidence of use.
2. **PACK OUT ALL LITTER.**
Help preserve the park's natural beauty by packing out all litter, including cigarette butts and toilet paper.
3. **NO PETS ON TRAILS OR IN BACKCOUNTRY.**
Pets may harm or be harmed by wildlife, and can attract predators.
4. **DO NOT CUT SWITCHBACKS ON TRAILS.**
Although cross-country hiking is allowed, help prevent trail erosion by staying on marked trails.
5. **COLLECTING ANY NATURAL OR HISTORICAL FEATURE OR OBJECT IS PROHIBITED.**
Leave park features intact for others to enjoy.
6. **DO NOT BATHE, SWIM, WASH IN, OR CONTAMINATE WATER SOURCES AND SURROUNDINGS. CAMP AT LEAST 100 YARDS FROM ANY WATER SOURCE.**
Desert water sources and springs are fragile; plants and wildlife depend upon them for survival.
7. **CAMP WITHIN DESIGNATED SITES.**
When camping in a designated site prevent resource damage by camping within the area outlined by rocks, logs, or brush.
8. **GENERATOR USE IS NOT PERMITTED IN BACKCOUNTRY CAMPSITES.**
Natural quiet is a protected resource; help preserve a quiet wilderness experience.
9. **IN OPEN ZONES, CAMP AT LEAST 1/2 MILE AND OUT OF SIGHT FROM ANY ROAD AND AT LEAST 100 YDS. FROM ANY TRAIL, HISTORICAL STRUCTURE, ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, DRY WASH, OR CLIFF EDGE.**
Minimize your impact to the natural landscape.
10. **BURY HUMAN WASTE AT LEAST 6 INCHES DEEP. PACK OUT TOILET PAPER.**
Human waste is unsightly and unsanitary. Carry a digging trowel. Locate latrines 1/4 mile from any water source and well away from camp.
11. **POSSESSION OF FIREARMS, OTHER WEAPONS, AND TRAPS IS PROHIBITED.**
12. **MOTORIZED VEHICLES AND BICYCLES ARE PERMITTED ONLY ON DESIGNATED PUBLIC ROADS.**
Off-road vehicle travel causes visual and environmental damage.
13. **DO NOT FEED WILDLIFE.**
Feeding wildlife is illegal and may be dangerous to you. It often results in having to destroy the animal.